

Rally Action Goes Full Cycle at Caroga Lake



Robert Williams of Albany really gets into the tub during the motorcycle apple-dunking event, but despite his vigor and zeal, he lost.

Two dozen motorcyclists roared half-way down the track, stopped, dismounted, and stuck their heads into tubs filled with water.

A few minutes later an equal number of girls riding side-saddle on motorcycles jumped off and ran to the center of the arena to grab a seat, shortly followed by the slowest race in the world.

What's going on? It was the Motorcycle Time and Rally held at Caroga Lake. It was loaded with events designed to test the skill of motorcycle drivers and riders.

There were 15 events in the rally, which was conducted under the sanction of the American Motorcycle Association, ranging from obstacle courses, apple-dunking, musical chairs, ring toss, barrel-push races and the slowest race. More than 2,000 people turned out to watch the event, despite a chilling breeze, threatening clouds and heavy dust raised by the bikes.

The Tour and Rally, sponsored by the Northeastern New York State Dealers' Association, was open to all motorcycle enthusiasts.

A 14-year-old boy, Dick Tib-

beta of Rome, won the tire toss event, and another young rider, ten-year-old Howard Spittiger of Colonie, came in close second in a couple of events. Howard was the youngest driver and Arlene Dunderdale of Norwich, the oldest at an attractive 42.

The Caroga Lake event was designed to test the skill of the driver, not the speed and endurance of man and machine or how brave or reckless a driver could be. None of the events were easy, and required expert coordination of clutch, throttle, brake, maneuverability and above all, judgment.



The girls can ride, too. Here they are in the barrel-push race in which they push steel drums with their motorcycles.



Winner was Rick Cowsett of Loudon Arms, Albany, who proudly accepts his trophy from John "Spitzie" Spittiger, of Colonie, master of ceremonies. Soaking wet from the shoulders up, Rick still managed a big smile, despite the apple. He ate it, too.



This event is an adaptation of musical chairs. Here, girls who moments before were riding side-saddle on motorcycles, scramble for the seats in the center of the arena. Safety helmets are just as important off the bikes in this case.



Jim Valovic of Claverville cautiously maneuvers his motorcycle in the "Slow Race" event—in which the last motorcycle to cross the finish line is the winner. A rider is disqualified if either foot touches the ground. The judge walks alongside Jim's machine to make sure he doesn't

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